

REMARKS

Claims 27-40 are pending in the application upon entry of the amendments. Favorable reconsideration in light of the Terminal Disclaimer and the remarks which follow is respectfully requested.

The Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 27-40 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over co-pending application U.S. Patent 7,175,690. The subject application and co-pending application U.S. Patent 7,175,690 were owned by the same entity at the time the inventions were made, Rio Tinto Brazil. The enclosed Terminal Disclaimer renders this rejection moot.

Petition for Extension of Time

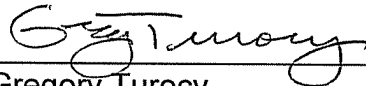
A request for a five month extension of time is hereby made. Payment is being made through the EFS electronic filing system.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Respectfully submitted,

TUROCZY & WATSON, LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gregory Turocy", written over a horizontal line.

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